

More poisoned oranges in U.K.

LONDON, Feb. 11 (AP). — Three Israeli oranges injected with metallic mercury were discovered in English cities today, police said. One was discovered in the northern industrial town of Mansfield where authorities launched a hunt for what they believe is a contaminated batch of oranges, all but two of which has been sold. Other poisoned oranges were discovered in Liverpool and Southampton in the Humberside region of Eastern England, police said. At least six poisoned oranges have been spotted in Britain following a claim by a guerrilla group that it had injected Israeli oranges with mercury to sabotage the export industry.

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King inaugurates Queen Alya Fund

AMMAN, Feb. 11 (J.T.). — His Majesty King Hussein today opened The Queen Alya Fund for Social Work, an institution established as a tribute to the late Queen, and dedicated to strengthening and promoting social work in Jordan.

Upon arrival at the institution building, the King was met by Princess Basma, Chairperson of the institution's Board of Trustees, and by board members. After a brief cutting-the-tape ceremony, the King met with representatives of a number of welfare associations. Later Princess Basma accompanied the King on a tour of the various sections of the institution and explained their activities and organization.

The fund's official brochure says that its task of securing world-wide philanthropic commitments stems from the urgent need to deal with the different social problems facing the people of Jordan.

The fund will support and promote efforts which are primarily preventive rather than curative and will work to ensure funding for each of the following areas of concern:

- the social and vocational rehabilitation of the poor, the invalid, the aged and the neglected
- the development, nourishment, overall welfare and care of children
- the improvement of institutions to care for the mentally retarded and those in need of special education
- the expansion of institutions to care for the physically handicapped and to improve opportunities for their training and rehabilitation
- the stimulation of local community development both to improve the delivery of services and increase local pride in a rising standard of living
- the creation of a junior college system to provide a corps of trained, mid-level professionals to help satisfy national needs in allied health, human services and the broad sectors of business and industry
- the encouragement of a strong cultural programme through increased work in art, music, drama and folklore and the cultural development of children at an early age.

The fund will work in close cooperation with the many voluntary organizations in Jordan and with the government. It will also seek the help of international philanthropic sources.

The opening ceremony was attended by the Prime Minister, the Chief of the Royal Court, the commander-in-chief of the armed forces and a number of senior officials. Also attending were the late Queen's parents and ambassadors whose nations have honorary members on the board of trustees.

Feasibility study for Hijaz railway to be undertaken this year

By Ian Kellie
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Feb. 11 — A short list will be drawn up by the technical committee of the Hijaz railway this April of the 10 or 12 companies best qualified to undertake a feasibility study for rebuilding the Damascus-Medina railway line.

The selection will be based on the answers to a questionnaire sent out last week to 33 companies from 12 different nations.

The questionnaire was prepared at the meeting of the Hijaz railway technical committee held in Riyadh from Jan. 30 to Feb. 2. The committee is composed of two representatives from each of the three countries participating in the scheme — Jordan, Syria and Saudi Arabia. It will meet again in Riyadh on April 10.

As well as drawing up the short list, the committee will then discuss their proposals for the "detailed scope of work" to be considered for feasibility.

The short listed companies will be given not less than two months to draw up technical and financial estimates for the feasibility study. The successful company is likely to be asked to carry on as the consultant for the project if the feasibility study is favourable.

This follows the decision to rebuild the Hijaz line, which was taken by the ministers responsible for transport in the three countries during their meeting here last October.

Part of the line is still functioning, but because of its antiquated narrow gauge its capacity is severely limited. The new line would involve rebuilding all 1,302 kms of the historic line from Damascus to Medina in standard gauge.

This will link all three countries to the railway networks of Turkey and Europe.

Mr. Hashem Taber, Under-Secretary at the Transport Ministry told the Jordan Times today that it was hoped to have the railway built by 1985 or even sooner.

Ethiopia mounts drive to open vital railway

ADDIS ABABA, Feb. 11 (R). — Ethiopian troops, in a drive to reopen the railway line between Addis Ababa and Djibouti, have advanced some 70 kms into territory held in eastern Ethiopia by Somali forces, diplomatic sources said here today.

On the other prong of Ethiopia's attack driving southwest towards Jijiga, heavy air and artillery strikes continued but there was little movement by ground forces, according to informed sources.

Newly-delivered Soviet MIG 17s and 21s — totalling about 40 — are carrying out much of the bombing. They were seen yesterday landing and taking off from the Debre Zeit air force base south of the capital by journalists being driven past in buses to see a peasants' cooperative.

An Ethiopian force is pushing along the railway from Dire Dawa, one of the two staging areas for Ethiopia's Soviet and Cuban-backed offensive to recover the Ogaden region. The force has reached the town Madi Galla, more than halfway to the frontier of the newly independent Djibouti Republic, according to the diplomatic sources.

Somali forces have also apparently been driven from the stretch of the railway they occupied between Dire Dawa and Addis Ababa.



President Anwar Sadat smiles as Israeli opposition leader Shimon Peres (left) explains a point during their meeting at Klesheim Castle on Saturday near Salzburg. Sadat came here to meet Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky while the Israeli politician joined them after a visit to Germany. (AP wirephoto)

Fighting subsides in Beirut as Sarkis, Khaddam start talks

BEIRUT, Feb. 11 (R). — Fighting between Syrian and Lebanese forces subsided today as Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam held urgent peace talks here with Lebanese leaders.

The Christian east side of the city was tense but quiet after four days of fierce street fighting left more than 150 people dead and many wounded.

The clashes involved Syrian troops attached to an Arab League peace-keeping force and a combination of Lebanese army units and rightwing militias.

Mr. Khaddam began discussions with President Elias Sarkis after arriving from Damascus. The foreign minister was accompanied by Maj-Gen. Najj Jami, the Syrian Deputy Defence Minister.

Lebanese Prime Minister Selim Al Hoss and Foreign Minister Fuad Butros joined the talks in the presidential palace, high on a hill overlooking the Christian sector.

President Sarkis conferred earlier with leaders of the rightwing Christian parties and Lebanese and Syrian army commanders.

No details of the talks were released, but the Beirut daily Al Safir repeated an earlier report that Syrian President Hafez Assad has demanded the disbanding of the Lebanese army.

The newspaper, normally well-informed on Syrian affairs,

Sudan, Kuwait send notes to Arab League on Somalia

CAIRO, Feb. 11 (R). — Sudan today called on the Arab League to discuss Red Sea security when it meets here next month, according to league officials.

They said Sudanese Ambassador Mohammed Mirghani made the call during a meeting with league Assistant Secretary General Dr. Sayed Nofal.

He said the agenda should include the strengthening of Arab solidarity and Arab responsibilities towards the Red Sea area which has been shaken by the current fighting in the Ogaden Desert between Soviet-backed Ethiopian troops and Somali forces.

The officials said Kuwait had sent the league a note calling for peace in the Horn of Africa, which it described as a vital area to the Arab World.

The note expressed the hope that the problems of the area would be solved within the framework of the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

The Kuwaiti note said that "defending the Somali territories is a collective Arab responsibility," the officials added.

Somalia is a member of the league and of its joint defence pact which regards aggression against one member as aggression against all members.

It was not clear from the note whether Kuwait considered the disputed desert as Somalia territory.

Scenes reminiscent of the civil war

The Syrian and rightist positions are no more than 20 metres apart on some sectors of the front which includes the Christian district of Ain Al Rummaneh and Shiyah, a Moslem section of the battered Lebanese capital.

"See the factory chimney over there and the tents just beneath it," said a rightist commander in Ain Al Rummaneh, his black beret set at a rakish angle. "These are the Syrian front positions."

The Syrians were on the western side of the ragged line splitting Beirut into a Moslem west and Christian east.

Today on one of the roads leading to Shiyah, sat a Syrian

armoured car knocked out in yesterday's battles. "They haven't taken it back, they no longer try to come here," a rightist militiaman carrying a Belgian-made assault rifle remarked.

Fighters in Ain Al Rummaneh said all four checkpoints previously manned by Syrian troops of the 30,000-strong Arab League peace force had been abandoned. There was no sign of a Syrian presence either in adjoining Fum Al Chebbak district.

Shiyah and Ain Al Rummaneh were quiet today as the antagonists awaited the outcome of the political talks.

But the occasional crack of a sniper rifle kept the front-line men on their toes.

Civilians in crowded Ain Al Rummaneh and Ashrafieh took stock of the death and destruction wrought by the fighting yesterday, the fourth day of the conflict. One of the main Syrian roadblocks was a shattered ruin.

Carter glad U.S. message boy days are over in M.E.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (R). — President Carter has expressed satisfaction that the United States is no longer the "messenger boy" in Middle East peace negotiations.

The president said the United States had benefited greatly by the start of direct Israeli-Egyptian talks. In comments made to a group of media executives yesterday and released today, Mr. Carter said: "It is a very encouraging and frustrating thing to be the intermediary or messenger boy between a group of leaders in the Middle East who won't even speak to each other."

He answered: "Yes I am. I was told (by Mr. Ahterton) that the talks would resume sometime after next week and I hope they will be fruitful."

In Washington, State Department officials cautioned there were several intermediate steps that must be taken before the talks could resume. Prime among them was an Israeli-Egyptian agreement on a declaration of principles.

Mr. Sadat called home his foreign minister from the political committee talks in Jerusalem last Jan. 18 after accusing Israel of intransigence and arrogance.

But today, Mr. Dayan suggested the real reason for the break-up may have had to do with the fact that Egypt was operating without other Arab states at the bargaining table.

Mr. Dayan insisted that Israeli settlements in the Sinai Desert were not a major stumbling block to the Middle East talks and told reporters:

... Egypt is ready to help parties reach a peaceful settlement but at the same time opposes the principle of occupying lands by force and agrees to the inevitability of self-determination for disputed regions.

Sadat meets Peres in Austria, says he is determined on peace

SALZBURG, Austria, Feb. 11 (R). — President Anwar Sadat conferred with Israeli opposition leader Shimon Peres today and said afterwards he was determined to pursue his peace mission in the Middle East, even if it proved to be his last.

"I'm determined to pursue the road to peace with full vigour," Mr. Sadat told a press conference here following a working lunch with Mr. Peres, joined by Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky at a 17th century country mansion owned by the Austrian authorities.

The one-hour meeting, the first discussions between the two leaders since they met briefly during Mr. Sadat's historic trip to Jerusalem last November, was arranged by Chancellor Kreisky.

The Egyptian leader said he had invited Mr. Peres to visit Cairo. But he also said that neither the talks in Salzburg nor the invitation was an attempt to try to split Israeli politicians.

Mr. Peres said he was not a negotiator, and that Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin had approved of the talk in Salzburg.

President Sadat said he was not worried about criticism from other Arab nations and he reminded newsmen of the 1975 Salzburg meeting he had with then U.S. President Gerald Ford which led to a Middle East disengagement.

"At that time I was attacked like I am now by certain Arab leaders, but it did not have any effect on the momentum of the talks," Mr. Sadat said. "I am not feeling that I am alone at all."

Sadat, Peres and Kreisky met at the 17th-century Klesheim Palace near here.

Dr. Kreisky, who welcomed the two men separately to the official government mansion, first briefed Mr. Sadat on a trip he made earlier this week to Moscow and talks there with Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev.

Then he retired to let the two Middle East leaders meet privately.

After a working lunch, the three staged a news conference attended by about 150 newsmen.

Mr. Sadat said his meeting with Mr. Peres resumed the talk he had with Israeli opposition leader in the Israeli parliament during his Jerusalem visit. It was at this point that Mr. Sadat said he hoped the talks would be continued and that he invited Mr. Peres to Egypt.

Dr. Kreisky suggested the meeting with Mr. Peres to Mr. Sadat while he was holding talks in Washington with President Carter earlier this week, according to Egyptian sources.

Mr. Sadat said his discussions with Mr. Peres were "a new step in our cooperation along the road to peace and security for all nations."

Mr. Peres stopped off in this western Austrian city to see Mr. Sadat, en route to a Socialist International discussion in Vienna on the Middle East.

He said the Israeli Labour Party hoped that Mr. Sadat's peace efforts, beginning with his journey to Jerusalem, would end with a full-fledged peace in the Middle East.

Asked about the chances of Mr. Begin returning to Egypt following the break up of Middle East talks in Jerusalem at foreign ministers' level, Mr. Sadat said he was holding off an invitation pending a new round of shuttle diplomacy by Mr. Alfred Ahterton, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Middle East Affairs.

Mr. Ahterton is due to fly to the region in the next week to try to get the peace talks resumed. They were suspended on Jan. 18 when Mr. Sadat recalled his delegation.

Mr. Sadat called his peace mission "holy" and then asserted "even if it is my last mission, I will continue with it."

Mr. Sadat flew off to Bucharest about two hours later than originally scheduled.

The Egyptian president flew to Constanta on the Romanian Black Sea coast, where President Nicolae Ceausescu has a villa, when Bucharest airport

was closed by fog. The two leaders were expected to stay in the Black Sea area for the whole of the planned 24-hour visit.

Authoritative sources said Mr. Sadat regarded the Romanian leader as a "valuable conduit" in relaying Egypt's view of the peace process to the Soviet Union.

Mr. Sadat will be in Paris and Rome on Monday.

Senator calls on U.S. to cut aid to Israel

NICOSIA, CYPRUS, Feb. 11 (AP). — U.S. Senator James Abourezk called on the United States today to cut military and economic aid to Israel to force it to "withdraw from occupied Arab lands and recognise the legitimate rights of the Palestinians."

The Saudi State Radio, monitored here, said the Democratic senator from South Dakota, who is of Arab descent, made the statement in an interview with the Saudi daily newspaper "Al Nadwah."

"This is the only method of action which Israel would understand," the senator was quoted as saying.

Israel's policy of establishing new settlements in the West Bank, and its refusal to withdraw from occupied territories as part of a peaceful Middle East settlement "has deeply split America's Jewish community and American sympathisers of Israel," Mr. Abourezk added.

Mr. Abourezk said Americans have become "more open to the Arab point of view, and I think this was expressed by President Carter when he recognised the rights of the Palestinian people," he said.

Mideast peace talks to resume soon, Dayan says in New York

NEW YORK, Feb. 11 (R). — Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan said last night that he had been told by U.S. officials that Middle East peace talks, broken off last month amid Egyptian charges of Israeli intransigence, would resume soon.

But Mr. Dayan declined to go into detail beyond saying that he had been told in a meeting here yesterday with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Alfred Ahterton that the talks could begin some time after next week.

Mr. Dayan was making a hurried exit from a private luncheon meeting of the United Jewish Appeal, when he stopped to answer a reporter's question as to whether he was optimistic over the resumption of the talks, broken off last Jan. 18 by President Anwar Sadat.

He answered: "Yes I am. I was told (by Mr. Ahterton) that the talks would resume sometime after next week and I hope they will be fruitful."

In Washington, State Department officials cautioned there were several intermediate steps that must be taken before the talks could resume. Prime among them was an Israeli-Egyptian agreement on a declaration of principles.

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But today, Mr. Dayan suggested the real reason for the break-up may have had to do with the fact that Egypt was operating without other Arab states at the bargaining table.

Mr. Dayan insisted that Israeli settlements in the Sinai Desert were not a major stumbling block to the Middle East talks and told reporters:



Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan is seen in New York under heavy guard as he arrives for a closed luncheon meeting with leading members of the United Jewish Appeal in New York Friday. (AP wirephoto)

"From what I know President Sadat feels he cannot make a separate peace. His problem is how to bring King Hussein to the negotiating table." Mr. Dayan is on the third day of a 10-day fund-raising visit to the United States. His trip is also seen as an Israeli counter-offensive to President Sadat's weekend talks with President Carter.

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Assessment after one year's operations:

Women's affairs department plays vital development role in Jordan

It is now almost a year since the Department of Women's Affairs was set up under the guidance of Mrs. In'am Al Mufti. How has the Department developed over the past 12 months and what progress has been made in achieving its aims and objectives? Ginette Devaney visited Mrs. Mufti at her office to find out.

In June of last year a comprehensive plan was published to integrate fully the women of Jordan into the working population. The Department of Women's Affairs has established itself as a "think-tank" and co-ordinator for the activities of the different organisations working for the advancement of women in this country.

It plans to encourage and continue with current programmes, sponsor new ones and create model programmes to hand over to local organisations and to act as the jumping-off point for the mobilisation of women throughout Jordan.

Mrs. Mufti told the Jordan Times that from the beginning it was her intention to become involved with all the other ministries and departments whose work and interests overlapped those of her own Department. Accordingly she set out to make contacts and prepare the ground for future co-operation.

She and her staff are now in constant contact with people dealing with women's affairs in the Ministries of Education, Health, Agriculture, Economy and Industry and the National Planning Council.

Contacts have also been established with the private sector in both trade and industry.

This facility is not available in further education establishments at the moment and if this project is a success Jordan will become the centre for such education and training for the whole of this region with an experience and knowledge available to all Arab countries.

Mrs. Mufti told me "since Jordan supplies the whole Arab world with labour it will be helping the whole area".

It is planned to use all available modern educational techniques and equipment, such as tapes, slides, film strips and all audio and visual aids employed in current teaching practice.

The system includes a theoretical academic and practical workshop for the training of instructors in these methods and use of equipment. The Ministry of Education will be involved in the running of the Community Colleges and it has a strong vested interest in seeing that modern, up-to-date establishments are created where all can come for vocational or academic training, especially those women who up until now have not had the opportunity to further or even gain an education because of lack of suitable courses and the inflexibility of college hours.

Structure defined

The internal structure of the Department has been developed and Mrs. Mufti explained it to me thus:

"This Department within the Ministry of Labour must have the backing of official people from government. This could be in the form of a Commission through the role of the Crown Prince, through those people with the interest in the advancement and integration of women with both the authority and time to devote for this purpose. From concerned Ministries, the private sector and the universities will evolve an executive commission of full-time appointees, both men and women, to work in full co-operation with the Women's Department. This Commission will be the backbone of the Department and of its work. It takes much more than one Ministry to do this work and the link will be there in the Commission for the further appointment of 'key people' for future efforts".

Funds made available

The Department now has the money to mobilise women to work with others all over the country -- meetings and conferences have been arranged in order to discover specific needs and how best to meet those needs. Programmes have been organised in co-operation with local women. An outstanding example is the events which have taken place in Suf, a village North West of Jerash.

Some of the village women read of the Department's activities in the local press, saw television coverage and asked for assistance in setting up a community centre of their own. A general meeting was arranged at which Mrs. Mufti and some of her staff attended.

There were all sorts and ages of women present -- teachers, nurses, mothers, housewives, agricultural workers, all with different problems, needs and aspirations for the future.

As a result of this general meeting it was decided to form a committee to help the women to develop abilities as persons in their own right and to contribute to the community as a whole.

This committee came to Amman to the Department's offices at the Ministry of Labour to discuss how the advancement and integration of their women could be achieved. All the women of the village have the right to be involved with this activity and such was the enthusiasm that over 5000 a community centre will be established where women can go at differing hours for training and for any other activities arranged locally such as films, discussions and talks.

The courses will be suited to the needs of the students not vice versa. They will be set up as and when they are requested and will be geared to local requirements.

It has already been agreed to set up study programmes related to the family -- health, nutrition, home management, family planning and civics. This last is especially important as it will give many women, some for the first time, an insight into the workings of their country and a knowledge of their rights and privileges under the law.

Utilising traditional skills

Some of the older women amongst the villages considered that they would not be given enough and have nothing to offer the community as they had little or no education but they soon understood that they could, in reality, play a vital role in making their society a healthy and prosperous one.

Some of these women are skilled straw and leather workers and, while learning new skills themselves, will be passing on their own knowledge to other students. With the as-

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Tenth-rate planes, first-rate drama

It is difficult to see President Jimmy Carter of the United States agreeing to sell Egypt the 60 or so F-5E fighter planes that President Sadat has requested without making some reciprocal and simultaneous American gesture to the Israelis in the same arena of arms sales. The likelihood now is that the Americans will go through with a rather bewildering scenario of selling fighter planes to both Egypt and Israel, with Egypt getting the F-5Es and Israel getting the far more sophisticated F-15 and F-16 fighter-bombers. How this fits into President Carter's declared aim of reducing arms deliveries to hot spots of the world is hard for us to understand, if the event is within the realm of things understandable.

President Sadat, to make things more complicated has called the F-5E a tenth-rate plane. In fact, the F-5E was specifically designed and produced by the Americans to be sold abroad as a cheap and reliable combat aircraft, just right for local wars, unlike the more sophisticated F-15 and F-16 jets. But if the F-5E is a tenth-rate plane, the Americans selling it to the Egyptians is a first-rate political gesture. More cruel people than us would call it a necessary payoff of sorts to help Egypt remain in the American camp in the new alignment of forces that has emerged in the post-1973 Middle East. President Sadat cannot long remain without an alternative source of arms to replace the Russians whom he so unceremoniously booted out of his country several years ago, along with their MiG jets and spare parts.

It seems that the United States has little choice than to give President Sadat the guns he requires, and, to make the giving politically palatable at home, to give Israel better guns with which to beat up the Egyptians in case the Holy Land is thrown into another local war. The spectacle is all rather bewildering. More cruel people than us might say that life is crazier than fiction.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RAI Saturday said that Israel has succeeded in introducing the settlements problem into the heart of Arab issue exactly as it had introduced the problem of secure borders across the Security Council's resolution 242...

It appears, the newspaper adds, that the United States looks at the Arab issue through Israel's eyes, seeing nothing but the settlements problem as a main obstacle that can be overcome only by direct negotiations and quiet diplomacy; and the Palestinian problem, which the U.S. recognised in a spell of conscience sobriety, but also as a stumbling block that can only be overcome within the context of Israel's satisfaction.

The Arabs trust in the U.S. has been misplaced. They lost the bet on the American horse which Israel trained to run in one direction only -- a direction which fosters Israel's expansionist ambitions and supports its aggressive intentions by all means of effort, money and weapon. Al Rai says, adding: "When will the Arabs be able to convince the U.S. that they are more deserving than Israel in protecting its (America's) interests in the region and more capable than Israel in threatening these interests at the same time? This is the question and this is the problem..."

Under the heading "The Trap" AL DUSTOUR says it appears that the trap which depleted Arab effort on the Lebanese scene for the past years, has returned back to play a role, probably worse and more dangerous than any previous one.

It says no sooner did a call come out for building up Arab intrinsic strength and close Arab unity than the Lebanese scene assumes the shape of a snare that aborts Arab effort and prevents re-organisation of Arab ranks, after these became convinced that only through building their own power can they be able to escape the vortex of Zionist intransigence...

The newspaper was referring to the recent eruption of communal fighting in Lebanon, particularly in Beirut which aims at "pushing the Arabs to fight each other before they wake up to Israel's coup dealt to the peace efforts, and before they move to gather themselves together once more".

The Arabs, the newspaper says, should act seriously, courageously and wisely, to "dismantle" the snare as soon as possible.

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PEOPLE AND PLACES

Compiled and edited by John Bonar

It's a long way from Bucaramanga

For Marcos Navas Flores, a late operator and national cycling champion from Bucaramanga in Colombia the spur to hit the road, now 90,000 kms. long which has led him to Jordan, was his divorce from his wife in 1969.

Riding bicycles the 41-year old Marcos and his 18-year old son, Jorge, left home in August 1969 with \$100 in their pocket to tour the world.

The first stage of their tour took them through northern South America, the United States and in 1971 they arrived in Canada.



Marcos Navas Flores and Vespa

In 1972 the enterprising duo set off for Spain to begin a European tour, during which they were joined by Marcos' daughter, Isabel. After touring through Spain, France, the United Kingdom and Italy, they ended up in Greece. During a protracted stay there Marcos lost both his travelling companions to true love. Isabel married a Greek and parked her Vespa scooter in the shade of the olive groves. Jorge married an Australian girl and pedalled his bicycle onto a boat for Sydney.

Marcos cycled on alone, doing a tour of Egypt before going back to Greece and then on through Turkey to Aleppo in northern Syria. There Isabel and her husband met him and he rode on the Vespa to see him.

Clean eating

Would that more establishments follow the example of the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel. They have just invested in some equipment that resembles nothing so much as a giant washing machine and spin dryer. In fact, that is exactly what the equipment is. It takes a payload of 200 kilos, but not of clothes. For this is the latest move the hotel has made to keep its kitchen hygiene at the highest international level.

All fruit and vegetables served in the hotel now pass through this machine where they are chemically cleansed and spin dried before reaching the chefs.

Amongst the other gleaming equipment in the Intercontinental's kitchen is a vacuum sealing plastic wrapping machine.

Famous salesman passes through

Spiro Agnew, the ex-Vesp under ex-President Nixon of the United States passed through town this week, on one of his regular tours of the Middle East selling on behalf of several American manufacturers. One of his assignments is selling uniforms to Arab armies.

Celebration time in Cairo

Celebrations in our typesetting department downstairs at Abu Serraj has proudly announced the engagement of his daughter, Iliam who works in the finance department of the Egyptian Petroleum Company to Dr. Imad, the company physician with the Egyptian Tanning Co.

★ ★

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Kiddies craft show will go on national tour after successful opening in Haya Arts Centre

By Lee S. Tesdell
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Feb. 11 (JT). — An exhibit made up of children's art work done in classes at the Haya Arts Centre opened on Thursday. The show is being held in the exhibit hall at the Centre and includes many items which are for sale.

One of the teachers, Miss Behringer, told the Jordan Times that the ceramic pieces were the most popular. Salam Tamimi, one of the ceramics teachers told the Jordan Times that "everything would be gone if we had put a price on it."

The interest in the craft classes by students is quite high at the Haya Centre. Salam Tamimi said, "some of the students used to cry when the class was over."

Miss Tamimi has her B.A. in art from the University of Hawaii from where she graduated in 1975. She has been teaching at Haya Centre for about a year.

Other craftwork on display in the exhibit hall includes batik work, taught by Rima Abu Rus, paintings taught by

Miss Behringer and Ghazwa Shukri, and additional ceramic work by Ken Blazard.

Lamia Younis, teacher of needlework of various kinds, was attending the table on which her student's work was displayed. She told the Jordan Times that she has "about 30 students who all work well" and they "are very eager to learn".

Mrs. Younis has taught at the Centre for a total of about four months, first as a supervisor in the games centre and for the last two months as needlework instructor. On her table were displayed pieces done by both students and teacher.

Another instructor at the centre was leading his students around the hall showing them the intricacies of filming.

Mr. Saud El Fayyad agreed with the others saying that his students are also eager learners.

The Centre's director, Mr. Nabil Sawalha, explained that the exhibit will be travelling to other parts of Jordan now that it is completing its home tour. Towns on the list include, Irbid, Karak, the Nazzal area, the Nasr area and Aqaba. "It will



Nabil Sawalha, Director of the Centre with the lottery display.

be an educational exhibit to show the different styles of painting and handicrafts", he explained.

In addition to the present exhibit, another special activity of the centre is the lottery currently underway. Tickets are being sold for a chance at a variety of prizes which include a grand prize of a Volvo automobile. The funds thus raised will be used for furthering the Centre's development plans.

CYPRUS INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE FESTIVAL

Open Pairs Tournament from 5/3 to 8/3

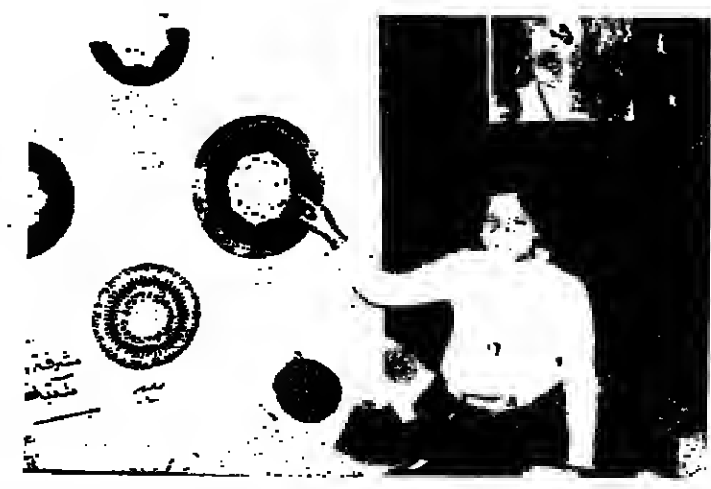
We have made arrangements for Jordanian players to participate for JD 50, including air ticket, half-board at 1st class hotel, transfer from and to airport and participation fees.

For more details, please contact:

International Traders, Jordan Insurance Bldg. A, Third Circle, phone 42356.

You can also book through your travel agent.

Deadline for bookings is 18/2 at 12:00 hrs.



A pretty young student shows off some her work at the Centre.

National News Roundup

More buses on rural routes

AMMAN, Feb. 11 (JNA). — The Minister of Transport, Ali Suhailat said today that the General Transport Corporation will shortly acquire a number of buses to transport passengers between Amman and the various governorates. Seven buses will run from Amman to Irbid in the evening of each Thursday and from Irbid to Amman each Saturday. These buses can also be used for school picnics on Fridays during which they would be staying in Irbid and can be chartered for the purpose, the Governor of Irbid Ma'moun Khalil said Thursday. The corporation over the past two months has imported 60 buses with the aim of easing communication problems in the Kingdom.

Direct dialing links Irbid and Aqaba

IRBID, Feb. 11 (JNA). — A direct telephone line has been opened between the town of Irbid in the north and the Port city of Aqaba. Callers in Irbid can now dial direct without recourse to the Amman Central Exchange.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The Friends of Archaeology and the British Council present a lecture by Prof. Nicolas Ziadeh entitled "Archaeology as a Tool of the Historian" on Monday at 6:30. The lecture will take place at the British Council.

THE BRITISH COUNCIL
and
The Friends of Archaeology
present

a lecture by Dr. Nicolas Ziadeh:

ARCHAEOLOGY AS A TOOL OF THE HISTORIAN

Monday, Feb. 13 at 6:30 p.m.

at the British Council Centre

Amman Stock Exchange Report

Stock Name	Volume	Open	High	Low	Close	Last	Last
						buying	selling
Housing Bank	JD 1,000	63	1,050	1,050	1,050	1,050	1,100
Arab International Bank	JD 10,000	172	11,500	11,500	11,500	—	—
Jordan Electric Co.	JD 1,000	140	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,350	1,450
Paper and Cement Factories	JD 1,000	210	1,050	1,050	1,050	—	—
Jordan Petroleum Co.	JD 5,000	2,847	6,900	6,900	6,900	—	—
Total Volume	—	—	3,452	—	—	—	—

Sri Lanka's president gets nearly dictatorial powers under new government style

Sri Lanka Prime Minister Junius Jayewardene believes that developing countries like his need "a strong executive not subject to the whims of an elected parliament and not afraid to take... politically unpopular decisions." So, he has amended the constitution and from Feb. 4 the government became presidential-style. Mr. Jayewardene is the nation's first president and he has almost dictatorial powers.

By Gamini Navaratne

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka. — In May, 1972 Sri Lanka, then a monarchy, became a republic. Now its cabinet-style government has given way to a presidential executive.

The past five years or so have witnessed more rapid and radical constitutional reforms in this Asian island than in all the previous 25 years.

The latest reforms, which took effect on Feb. 4, are the most radical in the country's post-independence history.

Parliamentary democracy has been retained, but the new office of president is vested with almost dictatorial powers.

This is the idea of Prime Minister Junius Jayewardene, who became the first president under the new system. He first put forward the idea 10 years ago. Addressing a political conference in Colombo, he said that what developing countries like Sri Lanka needed was "a strong executive not subject to the whims and fancies of an elected parliament and not afraid to take economically imperative but politically unpopular decisions."

Protest against Westminster system

It was a protest against the Westminster-style constitution granted by the British at independence in 1948. Under it, though independent, the King (later the Queen) of England remained the sovereign of Sri Lanka from whom all power and authority were derived.

The British Privy Council remained the final court of appeal, with power to strike down even legislation passed unanimously by the island's "sovereign" parliament.

A partly-elected and partly-nominated second chamber, the

senate, was instituted as a check on the elected House of Representatives.

There was a strict separation of powers, the judiciary being vested with power to overrule the legislature and the executive.

The constitution itself was held to be incapable of amendment in certain respects owing to the existence of entrenched clauses guaranteeing fundamental rights.

This system was regarded more as hindrance than a help in the daily business of government of a developing country.

But no government, until Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike's Socialist - Trotskyist - Communist United Front was installed in office in a landslide in 1970, had the requisite two-thirds majority in parliament to effect changes.

The constitution adopted by Mrs. Bandaranaike's government in 1972 proclaimed Sri Lanka a republic, thereby ending the country's last constitutional links with Britain.

All-powerful parliament

Its most significant feature was that it made the fully elected National State Assembly (new name for parliament) all-powerful. No other authority, not even the Supreme Court, had the power to question its actions.

Within the assembly the cabinet, headed by the prime minister, was the real seat of power.

A chapter on fundamental rights was also embodied in the constitution. But these rights could be restricted by the Assembly "in the national interest."

This constitution was criticised because there were no checks against abuses by any party which had an absolute majority in the fundamental

rights were not enforceable through the courts.

While it was being drafted, Mr. Jayewardene proposed that Sri Lanka opt for a presidential executive, but this was rejected.

He obtained the people's mandate to implement the idea when his liberal United National Party was returned to power at the July, 1977 election, winning as many as 140 of the Assembly's 168 seats.

The prime minister has now become a mere figure-head, carrying out the president's orders. There is a proposal to abolish the office altogether and have a vice-president instead but there has been no decision yet.

On his score, opposition parties have expressed grave misgivings that Sri Lanka might end up in a dictatorship.

The Charles de Gaulle-like Jayewardene himself has in the past been accused of harbouring dictatorial ambitions.

But he has pointed out that during the seven-year regime of Mrs. Bandaranaike, even in the absence of such powers as now granted to the president, Sri Lanka was under a virtual dictatorship.

Mr. Jayewardene has also pointed out that unlike before fundamental rights, including press freedom, have been made inalienable.

While the news system appears to be akin to the American and French systems in many respects, it differs from them in one vital respect.

In the United States, the ministers or secretaries of state are from outside the Congress; in France, ministers are chosen from among members of the National Assembly, but they must give up their seats on appointment.

But in Sri Lanka, the ministers, who will be chosen from the Assembly, will continue to be members of it and be answerable to it.

Also, the president will have the right of audience in the Assembly at any time he wishes.

The switch to the presidential system coincides with the adoption of an "open door" economic policy.

The rupee has been devalued by nearly 100 per cent and allowed to float until it finds its level; most import and foreign exchange controls have been removed; subsidies on food have been slashed; in short, the country is moving away from socialism towards free-market capitalism. So Sri Lanka has a new style government as well as a new economic order.



Mr. Junius Jayewardene

It formed the crux of the amendments to the 1972 constitution approved by the Assembly last September, but whose implementation was delayed until Feb. 4, the date on which independence was granted.

The sovereignty of the people, hitherto vested in the Assembly, is now shared with the president who, after Mr. Jayewardene's tenure, will be elected directly by the people for a six-year term independently of elections to the Assembly.

Premier loses power

All executive powers exercised in the past by the prime minister and the cabinet ministers have been transferred to the president.

Previously, the president's job was mainly a ceremonial one and he could act only on the advice of the prime minister.

AMMAN MARKETPLACE

RESTAURANTS

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BUSINESS SUPPLIES

Iran prohibits imports of Israeli oranges

TEHRAN, Feb. 11 (R). — Iran has prohibited imports of oranges from Israel, following reports that some Israeli oranges have been poisoned by Palestinian guerrillas, government spokesman said today.

The government had authorized the import of 85,000 tons of oranges, half to come from Israel, ready for the Persian

New Year next month when fruit will be in strong demand.

Traders said orange imports were now expected to turn to Turkey, Egypt and Morocco.

The government had also authorized the import of 150,000 tons of tangerines from Pakistan.

Norway devalues crown, issues price freeze

OSLO, Feb. 11 (R). — Norway today introduced an immediate price freeze to limit the effect of yesterday's eight per cent devaluation of its currency, the crown, a government spokesman said.

The devaluation, against all major currencies, was expected to raise consumer prices by 2.7 per cent this year. The government was preparing price and profit regulations which would

replace the price freeze the statement said.

Norwegian Prime Minister Nordli told the press conference the government had decided that Norway should stay within the joint European currency float.

In Copenhagen banking experts said Norway's devaluation within the European joint currency float was unlikely to provoke an early devaluation of the Danish crown.

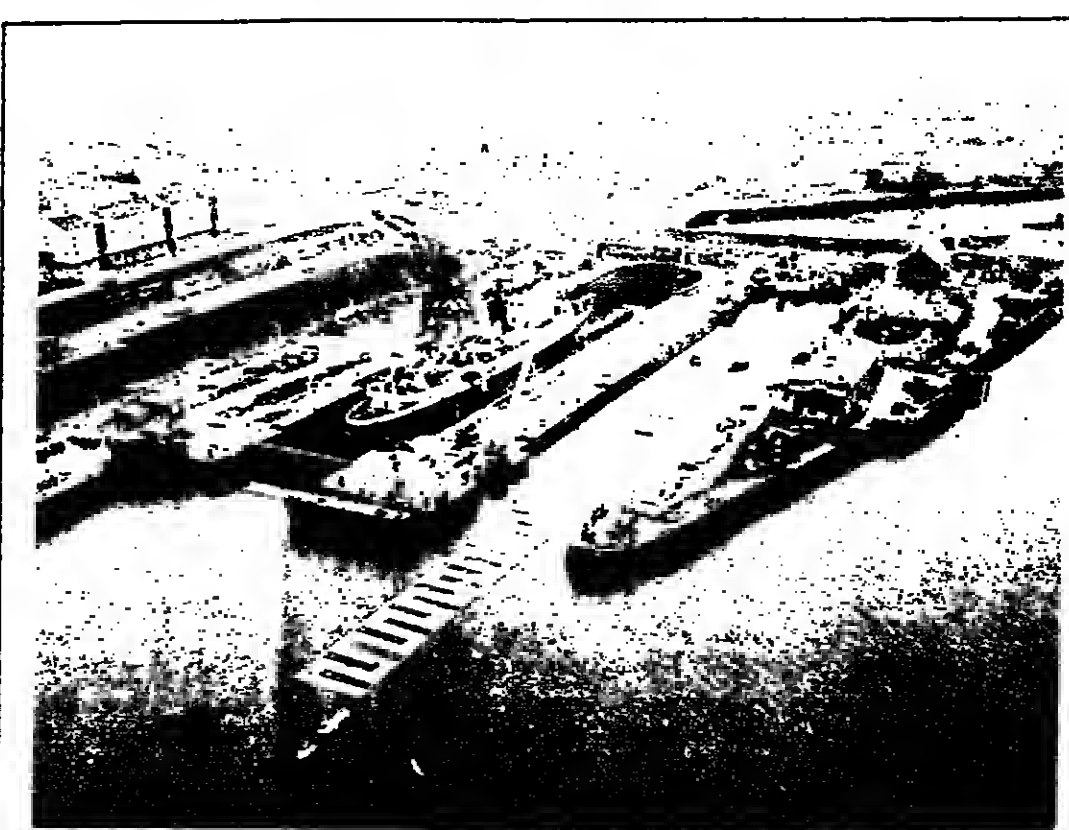
CIA revises estimate of potential Saudi output

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (R). — The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has again revised its estimate of Saudi Arabia's potential oil production -- this time upward -- the Washington Post reported today.

Last month the CIA dropped its estimate of daily Saudi production from 10.5 million barrels to 8.5 million barrels.

A classified report attributed the drop to political and economic decisions by the kingdom's rulers as well as alleged mismanagement of the fields by the Arabian American Oil Company (Aramco), the newspaper said.

But the CIA's estimate of reduced potential output was received sceptically by U.S. government and oil industry experts. Under pressure from the experts, the CIA has now altered the figures in its international energy biweekly Statistical Review to the original estimate of 10.5 million barrels a day, the Washington Post said.



The initial 140 metre section of a pre-stressed concrete floating breakwater -- claimed to be the first of its type in the world -- was floated out into the River Clyde, Scotland recently. This first section will form part of a floating wave barrier 670 m. long and displacing 2,053 tons for the new Rhu Marina on the north bank of the Clyde. The depth of the water at this site is 8 m. and, the breakwater, due for completion at the end of this year, will give protection to the craft moored in the 500 berths in the marina during all predicted weather conditions. The breakwater is suitable for both shallow and deep water and its basic design provides a horizontal rather than a vertical barrier to wave motion, thus interrupting the vertical movement of the water inherent in wave propagation. This causes the waves to dissipate their energy on the structure, leaving an area of calm water behind. It will consist of a torsion path structure comprising a system of hollow preformation and with internal voids filled with expanded polystyrene. (BIS photo)

Weekly Wall Street Report

Wall Street observers caution of probable expansion slowdown

NEW YORK, Feb. 11 (AP). — As the current U.S. economic expansion nears the end of its third year, Wall Street observers are voicing considerable caution over how much further it can go.

By most traditional measures, the American economy began 1978 in healthy shape. And the government's index of leading economic indicators, which is designed to signal the likely future course of business activity, has risen for six months in a row.

But a lively debate continues in the financial community over the probability of a slowdown or an outright recession before too long.

One primary source of concern has been the beating the stock market has taken. The market, despite its reputation for going to emotional extremes, commands considerable respect as an economic forecaster, and is included in the Leading Indicators Index.

"The 1977-1978 market drop has all the earmarks of a classic cyclical decline in stock prices that typically presages economic recessions or slowdowns," Argus Research Corp. observed in its monthly commentary for February.

Stock prices managed to scratch out a small gain in the past week, with the Dow Jones Industrial Average edging up 5.03 to 775.69.

The New York Stock Exchange Composite Index rose 29 to 50.01, and the American Stock Exchange Market Value Index added 1.86 to 124.64.

Big Board Volume, reduced by a heavy snowstorm early in the week, averaged 17.02 million shares a day, against 20.39 million the week before.

But the relatively steady showing of stock prices in the past two weeks has scarcely put a dent in the wide losses shown by the major averages since the end of 1976.

Albert H. Cox Jr., President of Meryl Lynch, noted

recently that the market's steep decline in January extended the drop in the total market value of listed stocks over the past year to more than \$100 billion.

Even optimistic observers like those at Manufacturers Hanover Trust, while asserting that "there is every reason to expect that the current expansion will continue through the entire year of 1978," note the presence of some cautious omens.

Merrill Lynch rates the chance of a recession starting in this quarter at only 5 per cent, but figures the probability will rise to about 45 per cent by the first half of 1979. He adds, however, "We do also want to emphasize our thinking that any economic recession in this time period would be moderate both in terms of depth and duration. We do not envisage the possibility of a steep and lengthy downturn like that of 1973-74."

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Jordanian Dinar	Buying/Selling
U.S. dollar	314.00/316.00
U.K. sterling	608.00/612.00
W. German mark	149.20/150.00
Swiss franc	161.50/162.00
French franc	64.30/64.70
Italian lire (for every 100)	36.30/36.50
Japanese yen (for every 100)	130.00/130.80
Dutch guilder	139.00/139.80
Belgian franc (for every ten)	96.00/96.80
Swedish crown	67.40/67.80

Australia hosts summit of 12 Commonwealth countries

A summit meeting of twelve Commonwealth countries, including India, Bangladesh, Fiji and Papua New Guinea, is taking place in Sydney from Feb. 12-16. The conference is a landmark in Australian international policy, since it marks out Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser as potentially the most significant leader of Australia since Sir Robert Menzies.

By Derek Ingram

WELLINGTON — Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser is about to host the most high-powered international meeting held in Australia. He is hosting a Commonwealth regional conference in Sydney with eleven presidents and prime ministers.

The object: To work out plans of fuller cooperation between the twelve countries that range in population from India's 600 million to New Zealand's 2.5 million.

Most important of Fraser's guests will be Indian Prime

Minister Morarji Desai; others will include Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew of Singapore, the new Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Junius Jayewardene, and New Zealand's Robert Muldoon.

The Commonwealth twelve for Sydney are: Australia, Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Malaysia, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tonga and Western Samoa.

This will be the Commonwealth's most spectacular attempt to work regionally as well as globally and the meeting is a direct result of the

June summit meeting in London at which it was agreed that the development of regional meetings could help further collective Commonwealth objectives.

Subjects to be discussed will include alternative sources of energy -- particularly solar and wind energy. One of several Australian initiatives at Sydney is likely to be a proposal that Australia should play a special role in the research of the solar energy for the whole region.

Australia is making considerable headway into solar energy research. Only the other day its Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (SIRO) forecast that by the end of the century one-eighth of the country's needs of primary energy could be provided by solar heat generating systems.

A difficult discussion will

take place at the Sydney meeting on trade flows -- a subject on which there are strong feelings in the region. Malaysia and Singapore are particularly annoyed about protectionism that keeps their manufactured goods out of Australia.

Other subjects on the agenda are the law of the sea 200-mile limit, transport and communications in the South Pacific, and the special problems of small states, of which there are many in the region. The aim of the conference is not to set up any separate regional machinery for the region -- already there are two organisations, to which many of the 12 belong -- the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the South Pacific Forum. Care will be taken not to overlap the work of either of them.

The Sydney conference is to follow closely the pattern that has evolved for Commonwealth summit meetings. Informality will be the key. Prime ministers and presidents will have two officials only sitting with them at the table and after two days in the conference room all the leaders will travel more than 100 miles out of Sydney to spend two further days in a health resort.

They will stay at Berida Manor, Bowral -- a house turned recently into a retreat for businessmen. The manor has facilities for golf, tennis, swimming pools, saunas, massages, horse riding and bush walking. For the leaders' wives there is a beauty parlour.

The Sydney conference will underline the increasingly active role that is being played by Australia in Commonwealth affairs. After the era of Sir Robert Menzies, Australian interest in the Commonwealth declined and of the so-called "old" Commonwealth countries Canada took the most active and forward-looking role. For Australian links with the developing countries, particularly with Africa, never fertilised under Prime Ministers Holt, Gordon and McMahon.

The coming to power of Gough Whitlam's Labour government changed all that dramatically and Australian stands on such issues as South Africa and Rhodesia moved firmly into line with those of other Commonwealth countries.

When the right wing Liberal-Country Party government came back to power in 1976 Mr. Fraser retained most elements of the new foreign policy and displayed as much enthusiasm for the Commonwealth as Mr. Whitlam. His statements in London on apartheid were as strong as any his predecessor ever made.

One of Mr. Fraser's aims in convening this conference is to help pave the way for Australia to host the 1981 heads of government meeting. The next summit is in Lusaka, Zambia, next year. After that one Commonwealth summits will have been held in Asia (Singapore 1971), North America (Canada 1973), Caribbean (Jamaica 1975) and Africa. It will be Australasia's turn.

Kuwait, Romania discuss plans for setting up petrochemical complex

KUWAIT, Feb. 11 (R). — Kuwait and Romania started official talks here today on detailed plans to set up a one billion dollar joint petrochemical complex on Romania's Black Sea coast.

Kuwait Oil Ministry Under-Secretary Mahmoud Al Adasani headed the Kuwaiti side at the talks while the Romanian side was headed by a deputy minister of trade and cooperation, officials said.

The talks were due to be resumed tomorrow on the petrochemical complex which would consume 160,000 barrels a day of Kuwaiti crude oil and three quarters of whose output would go to meet Romanian domestic demand, they added.

THE Sunday Crossword

(Formerly The New York Herald Tribune Crossword)
Edited by Herb Ertter

CON AMORE

By Jordan S. Leaser

- 1 Basic: abbr. S — glance
2 Frost or snow
3 Erudite
4 Dyeing vessel
5 Musicianship
6 Popular paperbacks
7 Tailor
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2 "Or" star
3 Robert —
4 Runs like a bat
5 Rocket stages
6 Auto alignment term
7 Lawyers
8 Site for 24 blackbirds
9 See 143A
10 Mace
11 A Fields
12 Sifted with a disk
13 Pulver's title: abbr.
14 Auto —
15 Scurry
16 Veni, vid, vici
17 Hurt
18 — above
19 LBJ's V.P.
20 Toon
21 Adam or Kane
22 Sent a cable
23 Political cartoonist
24 Plunder
25 Wrap
26 Group of eight var.
27 Scurry
28 From all sides
29 Love's acts
30 Weight
31 Annex
32 Insignia
33 Biographical
34 Pinchbeck
35 Points
36 Potter movie
37 Political cartoonist
38 Plunder
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91 Points
92 Potter movie
93 Political cartoonist
94 Plunder
95 Wrap
96 Group of eight var.
97 Scurry
98 From all sides
99 Love's acts
100 Weight

Diagramless

- 1 Tibetan priest
2 Audit men
3 Those beyond redemption
4 Ices
5 Courtroom
6 Enlarge
7 Inn
8 In (informed)
9 Soft drink
10 Scott
11 Neckline
12 Shape
13 Man looked up to
14 Spirit
15 Urine
16 Trossy
17 Jewellery
18 Scales
19 Eerie
20 Cherished one
21 Threes
22 Leaky slowly
23 Misfortunes
24 Neckline
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94 Trossy
95 Jewellery
96 Scales
97 Eerie
98 Cherished one
99 Threes
100 Leaky slowly

- 14 Griffin
15 Office worker
16 One after another
17 Gala event
18 Advertising sign
19 Saddle part
20 Cherished ones
21 Cherishing
22 Cherishing
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36 NATIONS AND 1,000 MILLION PEOPLE

Commonwealth members and their leaders

Australia	14 million	Malcolm Fraser, P.M. *	M
Bahamas	218,000	Lynden Pindling, P.M.	M
Bangladesh	71 million	Maj. Gen. Ziaur Rahman, Pres. *	R
Barbados	254,000	Tom Adams, P.M.	M
Botswana	675,000	Sir Seretse Khama, Pres.	R
Britain	56 million	James Callaghan, P.M.	M
Canada	23 million	Pierre Trudeau, P.M.	M
Cyprus	660,000	Archbishop Makarios, Pres.	R
Fiji	559,000	Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, P.M. *	M
The Gambia	495,000	Sir Dawda Jawara, Pres.	R
Ghana	9 million	Gen. I.K. Acheampong, Chairman, Supreme Military Council	R
Grenada	110,000	Eric Gairy, P.M.	M
Guyana	830,000	Forbes Burnham, P.M.	R
India	604 million	Morarji Desai, P.M. *	R
Jamaica	2 million	Michael Manley P.M.	M
Kenya	12 million	Jomo Kenyatta, Pres.	R
Lesotho	1 million	Chief Laabua Jonathan, P.M.	M*
Malawi	5 million	Kamuzu Banda, Pres.	R
Malaysia	12 million	Datuk Hussein Bin Onn, P.M. *	M*
Malta	300,000	Dom Mintoff, P.M.	R
Mauritius	881,000	Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, P.M.	M
New Zealand	3 million	Robert Muldoon, P.M. *	M
Nigeria	79 million	Lt. Gen. Olusegun Obasanjo, Head of the Federal Military Government	R
Papua New Guinea	2.8 million	Michael Somare, P.M. *	M
Seychelles	60,000	Albert René, Pres.	R
Sierra Leone	3 million	Siaka Stevens, Pres.	R
Singapore	2.2 million	Lee Kuan Yew, P.M. *	R
Sri Lanka	14 million	Junius Jayewardene, P.M. *	R
Swaziland	530,000	Col. Maphavu Harry Dlamini, P.M.	M*
Tanzania	14.5 million	Julius Nyerere, Pres.	R
Tonga	90,000	Prince Tu'ipulehake, P.M. *	M*
Trinidad and Tobago	1.2 million	Eric Williams, P.M.	R
Uganda	11 million	Field Marshal Idi Amin Dada, Pres.	R
Western Samoa	151,000	Taisi Tupuola Tufuga Efi, P.M. *	R
Zambia	4.5 million	Kenneth Kaunda, Pres.	R
Special member			
Nauru	7,500	Bernard Dowiyogo, Pres. *	R

KEY: R — Republic
M — Monarchy (having Queen Elizabeth as monarch)
M* — Monarchy (having monarch other than Queen Elizabeth)

All countries recognise Queen Elizabeth as Head of the Commonwealth

*Attending Sydney conference

مكتبة الامم

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

in the CARROLL RICHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: First be inspired with the thoughts and plans of action that can add to your mental growth and physical development. Then put this effect so that you achieve a greater amount of press and advancement than has been possible so far.

RIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Go after personal goals in a matter-of-fact manner. Improve health in some way. To meditate and live on a higher plane of expression.

AURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Organizing your future intelligently is wise. Then take right steps in such decisions. Reflect before you speak.

EMINI (May 21 to June 21) Morning is a good time for you with friends, but later you are happiest by yourself. How to have a happier and more affluent existence.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) You can handle worldly affairs early before you get together with geniuses. Study career affairs and know how to improve the situation.

EO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Plan how to make those changes that will permit you to live a more charming and life in the future. Meet with interesting personality and be happy. Avoid those who could downgrade you.

IRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Study obligations well know how best to express yourself in the future. An especially good time to be with loved one.

IBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Meet with associates and set out new arrangements for the future. Good day for eloping civic matters well also.

CORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You can accomplish a deal and also show appreciation to those who have a loyal to you. Take exercises and treatments that help you become stronger, more talented, vital.

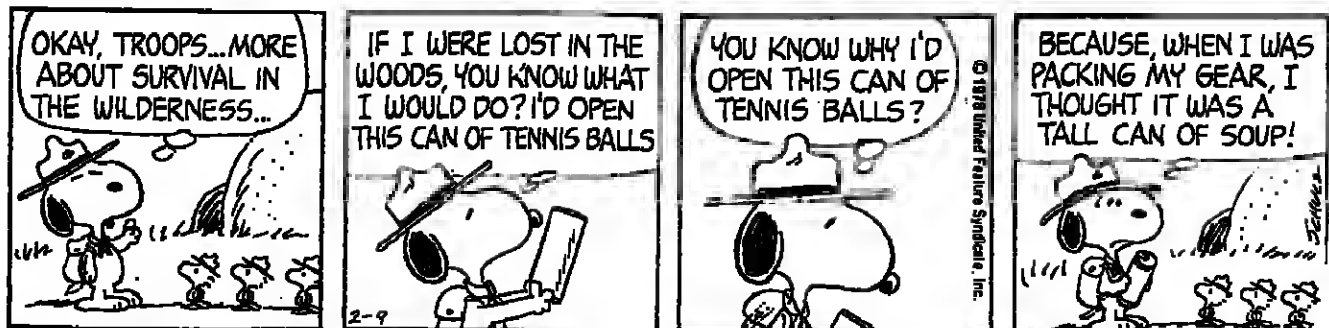
AGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Plan some time for hobby or recreation. Avoid spending money foolishly. Include loved ones in your plans.

APRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get that new plan making at home so that the future will be brighter for there and then relax. Study into a new interest that will bring you more benefits in the future.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get into whatever will give your spiritual and intellectual growth. Communicate with others personally and get good results.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to March 20) Plan how to have more security in the future and add to present assets, property. Be sure to plan repairs that bring more beauty and comfort to your surroundings.

PEANUTS



ANDY GAPP



MUTT & JEFF



THE FLINTSTONES



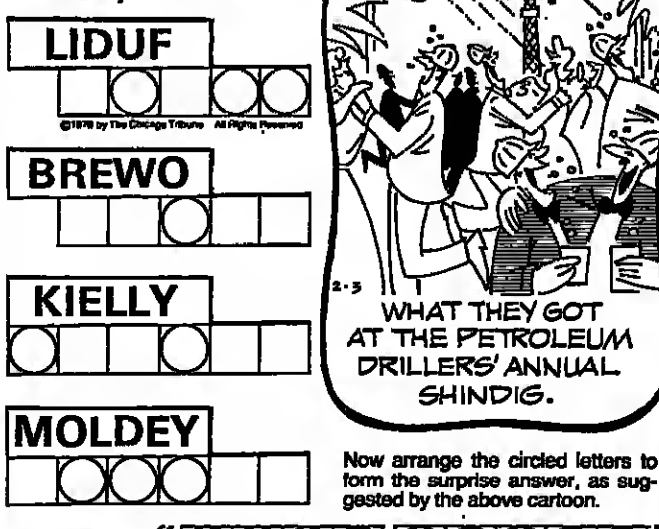
THE BETTER HALF. By Barnes



"That will go good with a port-time job, Dear."

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answers: LIDUF, BREWO, KIELLY, MOLDEY. Yesterday's Jumbles: BLESS PIKER DECENT EROTIC. Answer: Letters were "scattered" under the railroad - "TRESTLE".

GORED BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

© 1978 by Chicago Tribune

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ A 7 6
♥ K 10 2
♦ 8 7 5 4 3
♣ J 3

EAST
♠ 10 9 4 2
♥ 7
♦ A K Q J 9 6
♣ 2

SOUTH
♠ K Q 3
♥ A Q 6 4
♦ Void
♣ A K Q 10 8 5

The bidding:
South West North East
2 ♠ Pass 2 NT 6 ♠
6 ♥ Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Ten of ♠.

"Gentlemen: It has been so long since I wrote to you about the exploits of Trump Comp Tommy that you might think he is no longer with us. Nothing could be further from the truth.

"You might recall that TCT was, ordinarily, a very undistinguished player. His bidding was poor, his judgment worse and, most of the time, his play of the cards could be described as mediocre. But give him a difficult trump contract to play and his whole manner changed—he became sharp as a blade. Here is a typical example of his skill from a recent game

at the club.

"If Tommy wanted to bid over East's preemptive jump to six diamonds, he would have been better advised to try seven clubs. But bidding judgment was never his forte, and he gambled six hearts. West would have doubled any other player in the club, but he was aware of Tommy's prowess.

"Tommy ruffed the opening diamond lead, reducing himself to three trumps against West's five, but he still made light work of his task. He cashed the ace of trumps to reveal the bad break. Faced with this development, most players would have quit, but Tommy seemed to grow in stature.

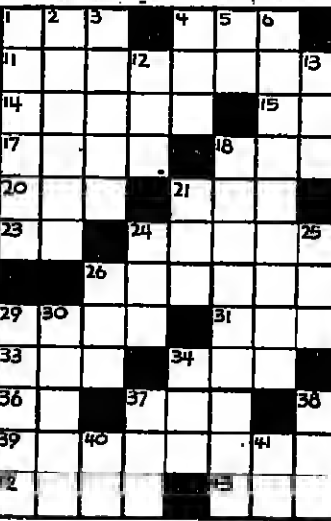
"He proceeded to take four rounds of clubs followed by three rounds of spades, ending in dummy. He was now down to the singleton queen of trumps and two clubs; dummy's last three cards were the ten of trumps and two losing diamonds; West held the J-9-8 of trumps.

"The scene was set for Tommy's coup de grace. He led a diamond from dummy and ruffed with the queen as West undertruffed helplessly. Now Tommy led a club. Whether West ruffed with the jack or ruffed low, dummy's singleton ten of trumps was destined to produce the fulfilling trick!

Sincerely yours,
The Old Kibitzer"

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- Indian unit of weight
 - Pronoun
 - Wine vessels
 - Skilled reader
 - Forum
 - Young man
 - Until
 - Yugoslav leader
 - Class
 - Babylonian deity
 - Monosyllabic ride
 - Bombyx
 - Unwavering
 - Anent
 - Gem stones
- DOWN**
- Surfeit
 - Note of the scale
 - Saurel
 - Pewter coin
 - Medina Arab
 - Gewgaw
 - Non-professional
 - Shoemaker's tools
 - Broad street; abbr.
 - Weep bitterly
 - Indignant
 - Mark of reverence
 - Nyx's daughter
 - Prior
 - Explosive



SATURDAY'S SOLUTION

- DOWN**
- Division
 - Feminine name
 - Course traveled
 - Hiker's shelter
 - The thing
 - Ladies' hats
 - Connective
 - Third tone of the scale
 - Flower
 - Vestment
 - Scottish murder fine
 - Encina
 - Impatient
 - Means of travel
 - Feast
 - Porker's home
 - Mining chisel
 - Japanese outcast
 - Announce
 - Steamboat inventor
 - Concur
 - Theater
 - Clothe
 - Waylay
 - Russian measure
 - Actor Carney
 - Swine genus
 - Winter peril
 - Nickel symbol
 - Comparative ending

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

Channel 3 & 6:

6:00 Quran
6:15 Cartoons
6:30 The Waltons
6:50 News in Arabic
7:00 News in Arabic
7:30 Survival
8:30 Arabic series

Channel 6:

7:30 News in Hebrew
7:45 Filler
8:30 Mike Jones and son
9:10 Roots
10:00 News in English
10:15 Hawaii Five-O

RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Morning show
7:30 News bulletin
8:00 Morning show
8:30 News headlines
9:00 Folk songs
9:30 Music for children
10:00 Signing off
10:30 News headlines
11:00 Pop session
12:00 News summary
12:05 Pop session
12:30 News summary
12:35 Pop session
14:00 News bulletin

14:30 Rubaiyat Khayyam
15:00 Concert hour
15:00 Kallia and Dimma
17:30 Pop session
18:00 News summary
18:05 The Crystal Pyramid
18:30 30 minutes of Jazz
19:00 News bulletin
19:10 News reports
19:30 Signing off

EMERGENCIES

Doctors:

Amman: Said Rashid (73500)
Irbid: Ahmed Bishawi (3925)
Zarqa: Farah Aghabawi
Pharmacies:
Amman: Sabagh (23157)

5th Circle (41112)
Ashrafieh (77851)
Irbid: Not available
Zarqa: Hayat
Taxis:
Oud (20655)
Tala (25021)
Burgu (61028)
Prestel (22051)

BBC RADIO

GMT

05:00 News: Press Review
05:15 Letterbox
05:30 The Face of England
05:45 Am I too Loud?
06:00 News: Press Review
06:30 Sarah Ward Requests
06:45 News: News about Britain
07:00 Our Own Correspondent
07:15 The Melody Makers
07:30 Following a Famous Father
08:00 News: Reflections
08:15 The Pleasure of Yours
09:00 News: Press Review
09:15 From the Weeklies
09:30 New Ideas
09:45 Sports Review
10:15 Take One
10:30 Sunday Service
11:00 News: News about Britain
11:15 Our Own Correspondent
11:30 Theatre of the Air
12:30 Frank Checkfield
13:00 News: Commentary
13:15 Letter from America
13:30 Short Story

13:45 Sandi Jones Requests
14:30 Vintage Comedy
15:00 Radio Newsworld
15:15 Concert Hall
15:30 News: Commentary
16:15 Our Own Correspondent
16:45 Cider with Rosie
17:00 News: Book Choice
17:15 My Music
17:45 Sports Call
18:00 News: News about Britain
18:15 Radio Newsworld
18:30 Living in Space
19:00 Radio Theatre
19:45 Am I too Loud?
20:00 News: Commentary
20:15 Europa
20:30 Bonnets and Banquets
21:00 Letterbox
21:15 How to be a Musician
21:45 Theatre Call
22:00 News: Our Own Correspondent
22:35 Notes from an Observer
22:45 Sports Review
23:00 News: Commentary
23:15 Letter from America
23:30 Living in Space

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT

03:00 The Breakfast Show
03:30, 04:30, 05:30 and 06:00

06:30 GMT: News, Regional and Topical Reports
VOA: Current News Summary
03:30, 04:30 and 05:30 GMT: An informal presentation of popular music with feature reports and interviews, answers to listeners' questions, Science Digest
17:00 News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinion, Analysis, News Summary

17:30 alyssa, News Summary, Dateline
18:00 Special English News, Feature V.O.A. and Man, News Summary, Music USA (Standard), News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinion, Analysis, News Summary
19:30 VOA Magazine, Americana, Science, Cultural Letters
20:00 Special English News, VOA World Report
20:15 Music USA (Jazz)
21:00 News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinion, Analysis, News Summary

AMMAN AIRPORT

Arrivals:

7:30 Kuwait
7:45 Jeddah
8:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi
8:15 Kuwait (KAC)
9:00 Doha (QA)
9:40 Riyadh (SDI)
17:00 Cairo
17:00 Baghdad (IA)
17:15 Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva
17:30 Athens, Larnaca
17:40 Paris (AF)
17:45 Copenhagen, Vienna
18:30 London, Paris
18:30 Rome
18:15 Frankfurt
19:40 Beirut (MEA)

Departures:

8:00 Beirut (MEA)
8:45 Frankfurt
9:00 Kuwait (KAC)
10:00 Rome
10:30 London (BA)
11:00 Riyadh (SDO)
11:30 Cairo
18:00 Baghdad (IA)
19:30 Baghdad
20:30 Abu Dhabi
20:30 Bahrain, Bangkok
21:00 Jeddah
22:00 Tehran
22:30 Kuwait, Dhahran

CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre (USIS) Tel. 41530
British Council " 36147-6
French Cultural Centre " 37000
Goethe Institute " 41988
Soviet Cultural Centre " 44203
Amman Municipal Library " 36111

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government) Tel. 75111
Civil defence rescue " 24391-4
Fire headquarters " 22080
Fire, fire, police " 36301-2
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) " 37111-3
Municipal water service (emergency) " 39141
Najdah roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help " 21111, 37777
Airport information (Alia) " 55205

1047 & 18047

WICK MEAL

Restaurants for breakfast and light snacks, home, lunch or dinner. Amman, First Circle, 1683, Jabel Al Lawzi-lawzi Circle. Tel. 36444. Al Hussein, near Jerusalem, Tel. 21761. In Zarqa and Irbid.

WINGS HOTEL

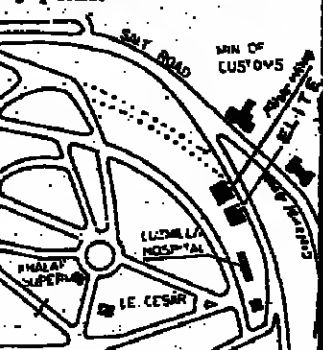
Wings Hotel, Jabel Amman, Tel. 22103/4. Price of THREE set daily for lunch, and a 7-12 p.m. and 7-12 p.m. Specialty: steaks.

THE DIPLOMAT

First Circle, Jabel Amman, Tel. 25582. Open from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. Restaurant, coffee-shop, snack bar and patisserie. Oriental and European specialties.

CHINESE RESTAURANT

First Chinese restaurant in Jordan. First Circle, Jabel Amman, near the Abiyah School or CHS. Tel. 35988. Open daily from noon to 2:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. to midnight. Also take home service—order by phone.



For advertising in above columns contact "Sour Wa Soura" Tel. 35889.

Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

Kremlin rejects spy charges by Canada; retaliation expected

MOSCOW, Feb. 11 (R). — Canadians in Moscow today weighed the prospect of retaliatory action by the Kremlin over Ottawa's expulsion of a group of Soviet officials accused of spying. Canadian government charges against the 13 Soviet officials expelled or barred have been rejected as "absolutely groundless" in a statement put out by the official Tass News Agency here.

The Canadians speculate in private that four or five of their officials might now be expelled from the Soviet capital, despite a warning from Canadian Foreign Minister Donald Jamieson that any such move would be matched on a one-to-one basis in Ottawa.

The 13 Soviet officials, four of whom are already outside Canada, were accused of paying large sums of money to a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) to try to get him to spy on Canadian counter-intelligence work.

The Tass statement suggested Canadian intelligence made its move against them because of its own image was tarnished -- apparently referring to a domestic spy scandal involving the RCMP.

The agency also said it was

authorised to state that the Canadian action, announced on Thursday, was regarded as unfriendly and had "obviously provocative aims."

Canadian diplomats in Moscow had no word of any contemplated response from the authorities yesterday and previously scheduled meetings were held as planned with Soviet officials.

Diplomats expected that any possible expulsion would not be announced for several days. When Britain banished 105 Soviet officials in 1971, two weeks passed before the Kremlin expelled four British diplomats and barred another 10 from returning.

Soviet relations with Ottawa were apparently clouded following the crash of a nuclear-powered satellite over northern Canada last month. Canada would ask Moscow to pay the cost of the massive search for radioactive debris.

Yesterday Canadian Prime

Minister Pierre Trudeau said that the alleged spy ring was a blot on relations between the countries but would not lead to a permanent rift.

At a news conference here, he played down the long-term effects of the scandal. Mr. Trudeau said "You can continue to have good relations with a person who has not been very nice to you on some occasion."

"I don't see it (the scandal) as the end of our relations in any sense," he said.

Strange flu strain hits U.S. youth only

ATLANTA, Feb. 11 (AP). — U.S. health officials are battling a flu strain that appears to attack only young people.

The State of Tennessee and the District of Columbia, the U.S. capital, have been added to the list of areas where Russian flu has been confirmed, the U.S. Centre for Disease Control says.

Tennessee is the sixth state on the list for Russian flu, which is striking mainly military cadets, civilian college students and other young people, the centre said yesterday.

Older people may have built up immunity when a flu strain similar to the Russian strain was prevalent in the United States from 1947 to 1957, the centre said.

About 3,000 people -- 1,000 more than the centre expected this time of year -- have died from all varieties of flu in the last four weeks, the centre said. Most of the deaths, especially among the elderly, have been attributed to pneumonia, heart diseases or respiratory diseases brought on or aggravated by flu.

Widespread outbreaks of all types of flu have occurred in 22 states, and smaller outbreaks in 19 other states, the centre said.

The Russian strain is said to be relatively mild, and young patients are expected to recover quickly.

All of the deaths and most of the widespread outbreaks have been blamed on the more common A-Texas and A-Victoria types of flu.

Soviets set new space record

MOSCOW, Feb. 11 (R). —

Two cosmonauts today set a new Soviet space endurance record by staying 63 days in their orbiting space station.

Yuri Romanenko and Georgy Grechko broke the record aboard Salyut-Six at 03:40

Moscow time (0040 GMT), Moscow Radio said.

The world record of 84 days was set by an American Skylab crew four years ago.

The new record will give a boost to the Soviet space programme. Soviet space chiefs

confidence was dented last October after a docking failure thwarted an attempt by two Soyuz-25 cosmonauts to enter the Salyut-Six station.

Throughout the Salyut-Six mission, Soviet commentators have stressed the significance of the station's double-docking facility for prolonging space flights.

Romanenko and Grechko docked at Salyut's second entry port and repaired in a space-walk the fault at the other port which had thwarted the Soyuz-25 mission.

This permitted two other cosmonauts, Vladimir Dzhanibekov and Oleg Makarov, to

dock with Salyut for five days last month in the world's first three-craft space link-up.

As if to underline the usefulness of the double-docking system, Dzhanibekov and Makarov returned to earth aboard their hosts' Soyuz-26 ferry vessel, leaving their own craft, Soyuz-27, attached to the station.

The first of a new type of unmanned supply craft, Progress-1, docked next with the orbiting laboratory, bringing fuel, food, oxygen and scientific equipment to the crew.

Progress was cast off last Monday, leaving the second entry port free for a possible further flight by a manned or cargo vessel.

50 killed in 2 airplane crashes

MONTEVIDEO, Feb. 11 (R). — A Uruguayan air force plane, believed to be carrying 33 people, crashed last night near the northern city of Artigas, killing everyone on board, an official statement said.

Twenty-three victims had already been identified but the exact number of dead was not known, according to the air force statement. Reliable sources earlier said there were 27 passengers and six crew, on the C-47 plane which was on a regular passenger run. A radio reporter who was an eye witness said the plane crashed and burst into flames shortly after taking off from Artigas airport 600 kms. north of here.

Another disaster occurred yesterday when a twin-engine commuter plane bound for Seattle crashed while taking off from Richmond, Washington, USA and police said all 17 people aboard were killed. The Beechcraft plane, owned by the small commuter airline Columbia-Pacific, was carrying 15 passengers and two crew when it fell to the ground about 500 (metres) from the runway and burst into flames.

Cypriot EOKA-B underground group announces dissolution

NICOSIA, Feb. 11 (R). — Cypriot newspapers last night received copies of a letter, purportedly from the EOKA-B underground organisation, announcing its dissolution.

The letter said the move by the organisation, formed to fight for union between Cyprus and Greece, was in response to appeals by Cypriot state church leaders.

The letter was claimed to be in the name of "group leaders, military commanders and senior officers of the organisation."

It said: "Today, we declare officially the disbanding of EOKA-B. We place our honour and dignity as individuals and members of EOKA-B in the hands of His Beatitude (Archbishop Chrysostomos) and our national leadership."

The letter added: "We place our safety in the hands of the rule of law... Long live the struggle of our Cyprus for full freedom."

The rightwing organisation, founded in 1971 by the late Gen. George Grivas, was a staunch opponent of Archbishop Makarios during his years as President of Cyprus.

It accused him of causing

what the letter called the "Turkification or Communisation of Cyprus."

One of the last acts of EOKA-B was the kidnap last December of the son of President Spyros Kyprianou who took over from Archbishop Makarios on his death last year.

He was set free three days later after the government pre-

sumed that his abductors would not be punished. But President Kyprianou warned at the same time that further acts of EOKA terrorism would be punished without pity.

The kidnapers had been trying to force the release of jailed comrades.

A Cypriot government spokesman said the authenticity of the letter was being investigated.

"They have ceased to exist as a cohesive organisation with central direction for some time. But if what they say is genuine, this, of course, is good news," he added.

Before Gen. Grivas died in 1974, EOKA-B waged a guerrilla campaign across Cyprus, attacking police stations and official buildings in an unsuccessful drive to discredit Archbishop Makarios's government.

EOKA supporters already serving jail terms include Nicos Sampson, who replaced Archbishop Makarios as president for a few days after the 1974 rightist coup, and Gen. Grivas's successor, Lt. Gen. Papadopoulos.

U.S. rejects Soviet draft of Belgrade declaration

BELGRADE, Feb. 11 (R). —

The United States last night rejected a "totally deficient" new but essentially unchanged Soviet draft for a final declaration of the Belgrade European Security Conference on detente and human rights.

Diplomats from other Western and neutral delegations at the 35-nation conference also expressed surprise that the new Soviet paper contained only "cosmetic changes."

Delegations agreed on a programme for at least another week in an attempt to overcome the negotiating stalemate which has dogged talks since mid-January. The talks had been due to end in mid-February.

Soviet chief delegate Yuli Vorontsov said his country's document was the best that could realistically be achieved. But his American counterpart Arthur Goldberg turned it down and declared: "Time is indeed short."

Human rights have emerged as the main stumbling bloc at the marathon conference, which was also called to examine the political, military, economic and scientific cooperation pledges contained in the 1975 Helsinki accords.

Mr. Vorontsov has earlier declared that the Soviet Union will veto any reference to human rights and scarcely go beyond the Helsinki document, which proved highly embarrassing to the communist East when human rights movements took root and grew rapidly.

Senior delegates here said they were now uncertain about how long the conference would last.

Viet U.N. envoy leaves New York

PARIS, Feb. 11 (Agencies). —

Vietnamese United Nations Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi, expelled from the United States for alleged involvement in espionage, arrived here from New York today with his family.

He told reporters that his expulsion was illegal and that he had no contact with spies or espionage.

Mr. Thi said the whole affair was a fabrication which had been created to discredit the Vietnamese government.

"Justice will win, he told reporters through an interpreter before departure for New York last night. "The U.N. must make it clear that it is not the U.N. which has expelled him. The U.N. must make it clear that it is the U.S. which has violated the UN Charter and the Headquarters Agreement."

Mr. Thi, 54, was the first head of a U.N. mission to be expelled from the United States.

He was recalled by his government last weekend when he was voting to stand in against the U.S. and gathering some support from communist and the non-aligned legates at the U.N.

9 missing in Los Angeles rainstorm

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 11 (R). —

Rescue workers moved down a muddy canyon today trying to find nine people apparently swept away in Los Angeles' most violent rainstorm of the decade.

Altogether 17 are feared dead and 400 more were left bo-

meless in the storm which moved in from the Pacific, dumping more than 8 cms. of rain and lashing the area with 128 KPH winds.

Police said they had so far found the bodies of eight people, most of them swept away by mud and water cascading down the hills.

The worst disaster hit the little mountain canyon resort community of Hidden Springs, 32 kms. to the north.

A 5-metre wall of water gushed down the canyon with a roar like a freight train, smashing homes and flushing away cars parked on the street.

Twenty people were lifted by helicopter to safety from the isolated community but nine were reported missing. Rescue squads moved on foot through the canyon looking for bodies.

Floods swept away part of a hillside cemetery in another canyon 24 kms. north depositing corpses and coffins on houses below. One body was swept more than 3 kms. downhill into a supermarket parking lot.

Mr. Steve Watson, a local resident, said the Fire Brigade took away 13 decomposed bodies at dawn. "Right now there are pieces of bodies you can see sticking up through the mud," he said.

No Salisbury accord yet

SALISBURY, Feb. 11 (AP). — Negotiators for a new Rhodesia constitution met for more than two hours here last night, but informed sources said afterwards that no progress was made on how white representatives should be elected in a future black-dominated parliament. The four negotiating parties -- the government, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole and tribal Chief Jeremiah Chirau -- are due to meet again on Monday. Prime Minister Ian Smith missed the talks, travelling instead to Gwelo in central Rhodesia for commissioning of new officers. The negotiations have snarled over Bishop Muzorewa's opposition to parallel voter rolls, one for white members of parliament and the other for blacks. All sides have agreed that 28 whites will sit in the 100-seat parliament to safeguard the interests of Rhodesia's white minority.

Besides obvious economic reasons, Tunisia's recent riots stemmed from backstage struggle for Bourguiba's succession

By Michael Goldsmith

TUNIS (AP). — Nearly every ruin in the Tunisian capital's sprawling Melassine slum district displays a television aerial. But the streets are un-

unpacked in this breeding ground of revolution and small groups of unemployed youths stand ankle-deep in winter mud, glowering silently at passing motorists.

It was Melassine and the equally dismal industrial suburbs south of Tunis which

sparked off the Jan. 26 riots that left an estimated 200 dead and almost toppled the benign Western-oriented dictatorship of President-for-Life Habib Bourguiba.

President Bourguiba's liberal economic policies have given Tunisians an average income of \$850 per year -- the highest of any non-oil producing country except South Africa -- while leaving a wide gap between the extremes of rich and poor.

Years of drought at home

and recession abroad have reversed Tunisia's long-standing relative prosperity.

One in every ten of the capital's 1.2 million inhabitants is an unemployed adult.

The ailing 75-year-old president has virtually retired from public life and the Arab nation of six million has been torn by a bitter backstage struggle for his succession.

The constitution names the Prime Minister -- 67-year-old former National Bank President Hedi Nouria -- as Mr. Bourguiba's automatic successor, but Mr. Nouria has little charisma and almost no political following of his own.

Yet the elegant, diminutive prime minister, with the full support of Tunisia's 15,000-man army, displayed an expected toughness in crushing the riots and has emerged as the nation's new strongman.

Rival

Among the politicians who wanted to step into Mr. Nouria's shoes was 65-year-old Habib Achour, a former amateur boxer and onetime Bourguiba ally who built the Ge-

neral Union of Tunisian Workers (UGTT) into the nation's all-powerful single labour federation with 650,000 dues-paying members.

For months, Mr. Achour had paved the way for a confrontation with Mr. Nouria with organised labour unrest and escalating wage demands.

On Jan. 26 Mr. Achour, claiming that the government was plotting to take over the UGTT, finally threw the gauntlet to Mr. Nouria. He called a one-day general protest strike that degenerated into the worst outbreak of street fighting, looting and destruction that Tunisia has seen in the 21 years since the end of French colonial rule.

At the height of the rioting, Mr. Achour is alleged to have telephoned the Tunisian security chief and warned that his men would "spread blood and gore throughout the city" unless military guards were removed from UGTT headquarters.

Mr. Achour and ten other members of the UGTT leadership are now in jail on charges of incitement to insurrection. Mr. Achour's alleged te-

lephone call is a crucial element in the government's criminal charges.

A National UGTT Congress has been convened for Feb. 25 to elect a new Executive Committee while Mr. Achour faces a possible jail sentence of up to 15 years.

Nouria is winner

Experienced diplomatic observers believe Mr. Nouria has emerged from his long struggle with Mr. Achour as the winner by knockout in the decisive round, consolidating his grip on the presidential succession.

The leftist infiltrators admitted into the UGTT under Mr. Achour's leadership are being systematically purged and the labour federation has returned almost overnight to its former role as a pillar of the regime.

Since Mr. Achour's arrest, messages of support for Mr. Nouria have been pouring into union headquarters from virtually every section of the nation-wide union.

"Yet nothing will ever be the same again in Tunisia," said a 52-year-old civil servant who witnessed some of the worst rioting.

"In the old day Bourguiba would have stopped the rioters in their tracks with a single short speech. Now we know that Bourguiba no longer counts for much, and that Nouria has taken charge all but in name. The riots were an abomination, but at least they cleared the air."

In an obviously Nouria-drafted order of the day to the Tunisian army, Mr. Bourguiba paid tribute to the troops' loyalty to the regime, which he said had crushed "the explosion of violence, rebellion, terror and lawlessness" intended to destroy orderly governme-



President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia



Tunisian Premier Hedi Nouria

sed the security forces of "erecting" by shooting kill. Mr. Masmoudi admitted the security forces had the experience in riot-control but said they deserved praise for bringing the estimated 100 rioters to heel "with so little bloodshed."

Officially, 48 persons, including three members of the security forces, were killed. But the number of deaths is believed to be as high as 200 -- many of them teenage children.

Back in control

By nightfall, the steel-bitted troops had restored order, proclaimed a month-long state of emergency and imposed a rigid curfew.

The rioters returned to air slums, known in Tunis as the city's "poverty ring," where problems remain unsolved while on television they watch programmes of nearby Italy advertising its consumer products and the rest of their lives.

The 10,000 Tunisian students were on vacation the day of the rioting. Government officials believe damage might have been greater if the students, having repeatedly rioted for fist causes in the past, become involved.

When the students returned on Feb. 6, they staged a belated strike in sympathy with the workers. Mr. Nouria displaying a newly assertive toughness, immediately ordered a ring of troops around university to prevent further violence.

The prime minister did not intend to allow new insurrection to overshadow his orderly advance to the presidency.

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